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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



SUMMARY OF  
ACTIVITY IN CUBA

1 JANUARY - 30 JUNE 1968

NPIC/R-100/68  
SEPTEMBER 1968

Declass Review, NIMA/DoD

GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM  
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W A R N I N G

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

# SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY IN CUBA 1 JANUARY - 30 JUNE 1968

SEPTEMBER 1968

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

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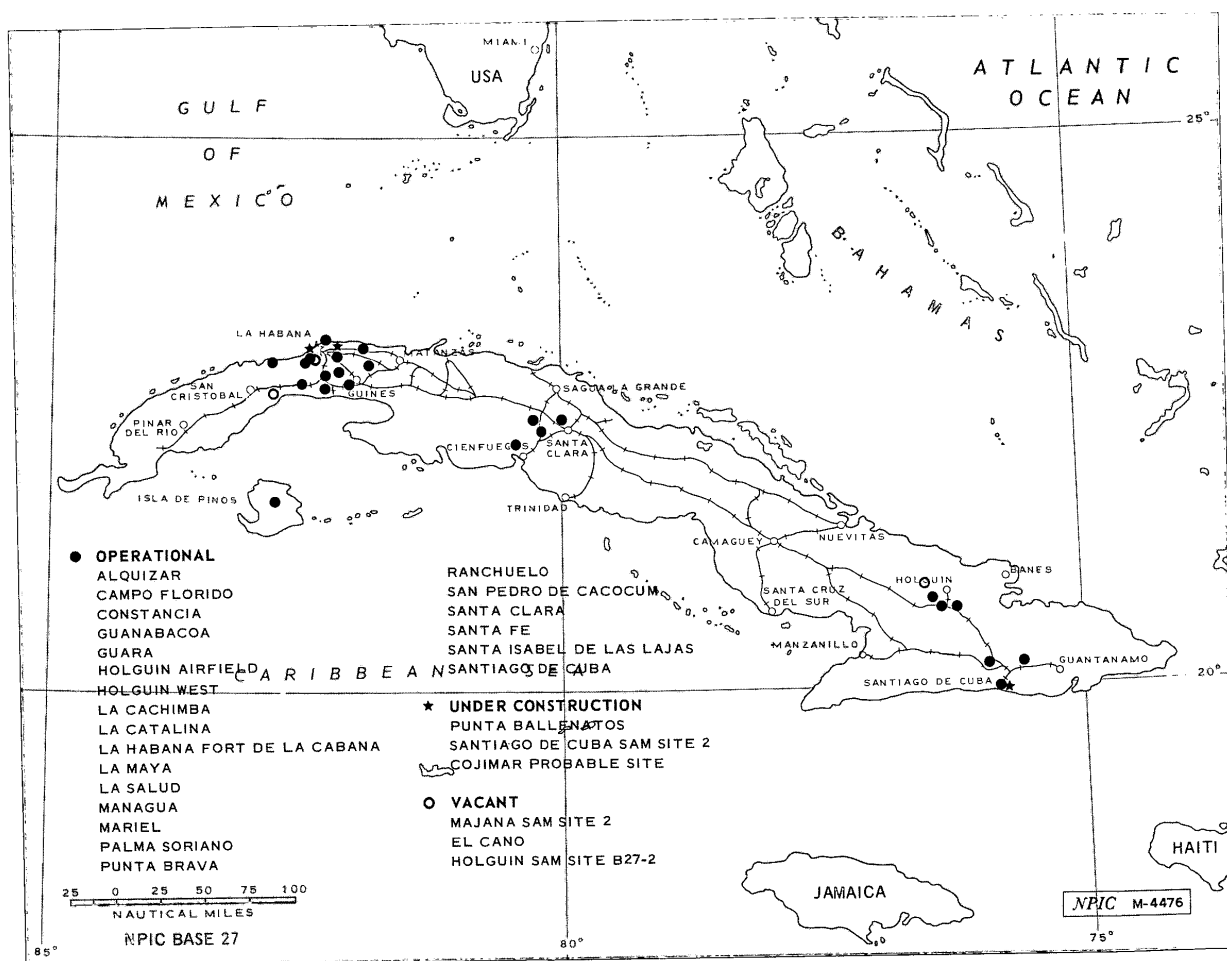


FIGURE 1. STATUS OF SA-2 SAM SITES.

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# Summary

This report summarizes the photographic intelligence information derived from the 26 [REDACTED] missions flown during the reporting period, 1 January - 30 June 1968. Cruise-missile activity consisted only of equipment sighted at San Jose de las Lajas Cruise-Missile Storage Site. Two SA-2 surface-to-air-missile (SAM) sites that were started prior to the reporting period are now complete, and three other SAM sites are under construction. The runway extension and taxiway at San Antonio de los Banos were completed, as was the new hangar at Campo Libertad. Naval movements remained normal but were highlighted by the visit of the Soviet Space Event Support Ship (SSESS), [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Electronics activity consisted of the construction and occupation of a second possible site. Significant ground activity observed was the Free Rocket Over Ground (FROG) equipment at La Habana Army Barracks Fort de la Cabana.

Categories of activities summarized are:

- Cruise-Missile Activity
- SA-2 SAM Activity
- Airfield Activity
- Naval and Port Activity
- Electronics Activity
- Military Ground Activity

The mission numbers from which activity was observed are given in parentheses.

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## 25X1D Cruise-Missile Activity

There was no cruise-missile activity observed at either of the two cruise-missile sites, Santa Cruz del Norte or Guanabo, and neither was operational during this reporting period.

Activity was observed only at San Jose de las Lajas Cruise-Missile Storage Site where photography of [REDACTED] reveals the following order of battle: seven SAMLET launchers, 20 SAMLET transporters, two SALISH

transporters/launchers, one SALISH resupply vehicle, eight prime movers, five SALISH crates, 11 cargo trucks, and 23 vehicles/pieces of equipment.

## SA-2 SAM Activity

At the close of this reporting period, 30 June, there were 22 operational SA-2 SAM sites and three sites in mid-to-late stages of construction in Cuba (Figure 1). Status of these SA-2 sites remained unchanged except as follows: the two new sites, La Habana Fort de la Cabana and Holguin West, were occupied; Holguin Site B27-2 and El Cano were vacated; and equipment was removed from and subsequently returned to launch positions at the Ranchuelo and Santa Isabel de las Lajas sites. Majana SAM Site No 2 remained vacant. Construction continues on the previously reported permanent sites at Punta Ballenatos and Santiago de Cuba SAM Site 2 and at the new probable site under construction near Cojimar. Moderate activity was observed at the two SAM training areas, Santiago de Cuba and El Cano. No changes were observed at the five SAM assembly areas: La Esperanza, La Veguita, Santiago de Cuba, Santiago de las Vegas, and Torrens (Figure 2).

Status of SA-2 SAM activity at individual sites is as follows:

La Habana Fort de la Cabana (23-08N 082-20W). Permanent construction was completed by [REDACTED] and the site was occupied on [REDACTED]

Holguin SAM Site West (20-51N 076-27W). Permanent construction was completed by [REDACTED] and the site was occupied on [REDACTED]

Holguin SAM Site B27-2 (20-52N 076-27W). This site was vacant when observed on [REDACTED] and has remained vacant.

Ranchuelo SAM Site (22-23N 080-10W). The launch revetments, the guidance revetment, and the acquisition radar revetment were unoccupied

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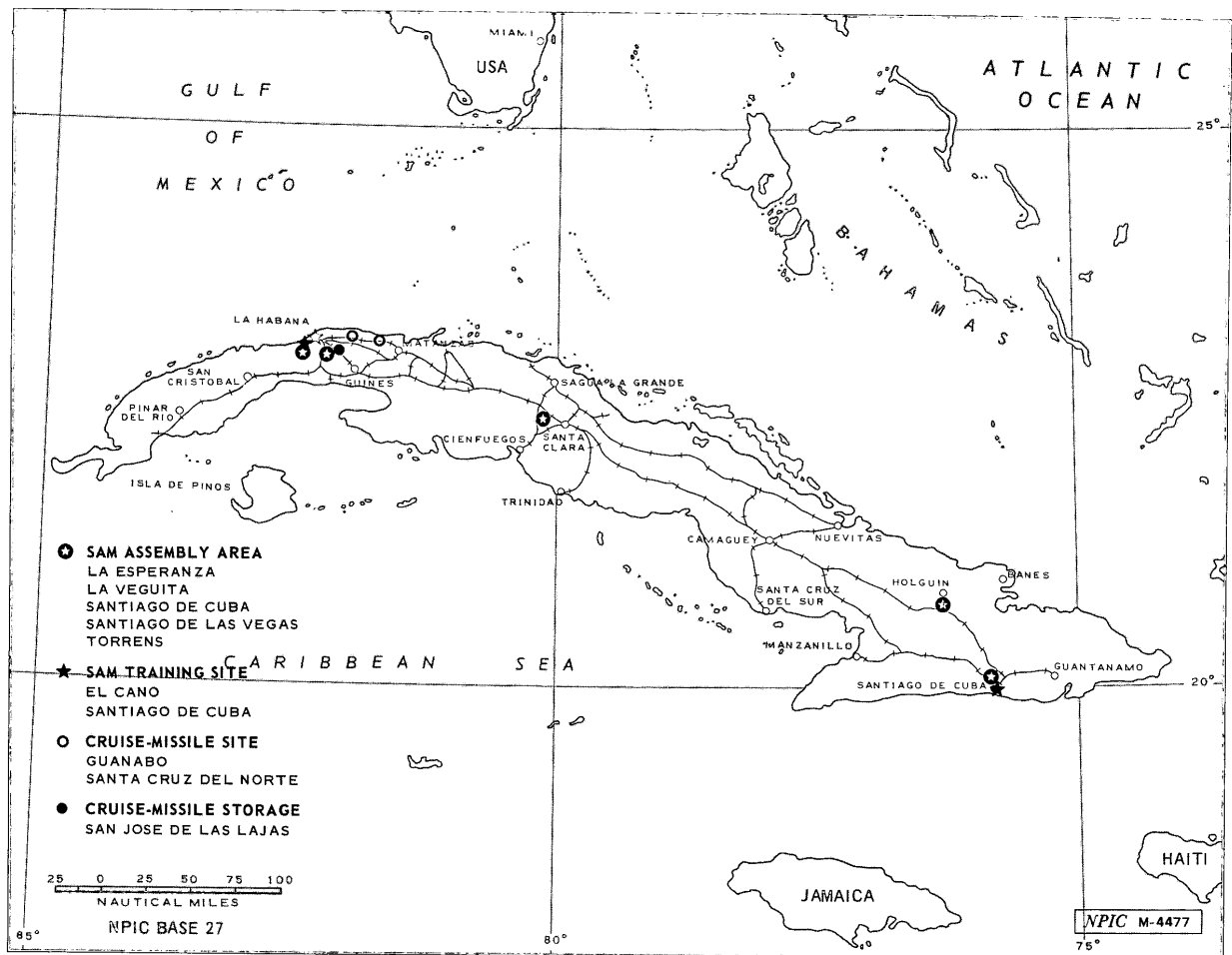


FIGURE 2. MISSILE-ASSOCIATED SITES.

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when observed on [REDACTED] but the equipment has remained at the site. All positions were re-occupied when seen on [REDACTED]

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Santa Isabel de las Lajas SAM Site A35-2 (22-28N 080-18W). The launch revetments, the guidance revetment, and the acquisition radar revetment were unoccupied when observed on [REDACTED]

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but the equipment remained at the site. One launcher was observed in a revetment on [REDACTED] however, it too had been removed when next observed on [REDACTED]. The site was unoccupied on [REDACTED] but the equipment remained in the support area.

Majana SAM Site No 2 (22-41N 082-49W).

This site was reported vacant at the end of [REDACTED] remained vacant during this reporting period, and, therefore, is considered non-operational.

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Punta Ballenatos Sam Site (23-04N 082-29W). Continuing changes to the launch revetments constituted the principal activity at this site, but the guidance area bunker and the two missile-hold bunkers had been earth covered by [REDACTED] and construction was completed in the onsite support area by [REDACTED]

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When the six launch revetments were observed on [REDACTED] five were drive-through and one was a drive-in type. On [REDACTED] only two were drive-through and four were drive-in. On [REDACTED] three were drive-through and three were drive-in; however, on [REDACTED] the revetments were again two drive-through and four drive-in, and SA-2 equipment observed for the first time at the site consisted of three SA-2 launchers outside the ring road near the acquisition radar revetment, an acquisition radar with van, and one cargo truck (Figure 3).

Santiago de Cuba SAM Site 2 (19-58N 075-49W). Construction of the site had been completed except for the missile-hold positions (Figure 4), and the site remained unoccupied as of [REDACTED]

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Cojimar Probable SAM Site Under Construction (23-09N 082-17W). A probable SAM site was observed under construction 0.6 nautical miles (nm) southeast of Cojimar on [REDACTED]

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By [REDACTED] four drive-in revetments (one under construction), an earth-covered guidance bunker, and two earth-covered probable missile-hold bunkers were observed. Photography of [REDACTED] (Figure 5), and [REDACTED] shows six unoccupied drive-in revetments and no change in facilities.

#### Airfield Activity

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Construction of the runway extension and taxiway at San Antonio de los Banos and construction of a medium size hangar at Campo Libertad, all observed during the latter part of [REDACTED] has been completed.

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A new airfield was observed under construction northwest of Matagua, Las Villas Province, in [REDACTED]

Since [REDACTED] when the first reinforced concrete, single-bay aircraft hangar-ettes were reported under construction at Holguin Airfield, a combined total of 80 have been or are being constructed at the three major military airfields in Cuba.

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Matagua Airfield (22-15N 080-02W). A graded-earth 6,500-by 150-foot east-west runway with 11 hardstands (Figure 6) was observed 2.7 nm northwest of Matagua and 10 nm southwest of Santa Clara on photography of [REDACTED]

San Antonio de los Banos Airfield (22-52N 082-30W). A total of 36 aircraft hangar-ettes have been constructed (32 of which are earth

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covered), and six additional hangarettes are in varying stages of construction (Figure 7).

Camilio Cienfuegos Airfield (22-29N 076-56W). A total of 28 aircraft hangarettes have been constructed (seven of which are earth-covered), and one additional hangarette is nearly complete (Figure 8).

Holguin Airfield (20-47N 076-18W). A total of 34 aircraft hangarettes have been constructed (15 of which are earth-covered), and three additional hangarettes are in varying stages of construction (Figure 9).

#### Naval and Port Activity

No new construction activity or significant changes were observed at the naval bases or the major port facilities during the reporting period. The entire inventory of Komar PTGs was observed on [REDACTED] 15 at Cabanas and three at La Habana.

Naval order of battle observed on the most recent photography in [REDACTED] was as follows:

La Habana Port Facilities (23-07N 082-20W). Two PF, two PCE, two Kronshtadt PC, seven SO-1 SC (four in floating drydock), one Komar PTG, four P-6 PT (one canvas-covered hull on marine railway), and six P-4 PT on [REDACTED]

Cabanas Naval Base (22-58N 082-58W). Sixteen Komar PTG, one P-6 PT, and at least 20 STYX missile crates on [REDACTED]

Mariel Naval Base and Naval Air Station (22-59N 082-44W). One OPF, two PGM, and five SO-1 SC on [REDACTED]

Cienfuegos Port and Naval Facilities (22-08N 080-27W). Two Kronshtadt PC and six P-6 PT on [REDACTED]

Punta Ballenatos Marina (23-05N

082-30W). One P-6 PT and six P-4 PT on [REDACTED]

The Soviet Space Event Support Ship, the [REDACTED] was observed in Cuba on [REDACTED] at La Habana Port Facilities; on [REDACTED] at Cienfuegos Port and Naval Facilities; and again at La Habana on [REDACTED]

#### Electronics Activity

During the period covered by this report, Cuban air defenses were improved by the addition of a 300-to 400-nm air-warning detection system -- a TALL KING air-warning (AW) radar -- and a second possible TALL KING facility was also observed.

Santa Cruz del Norte TALL KING AW Radar Facility (23-08N 081-58W). This secured facility 3.8 nm southwest of Santa Cruz del Norte was observed on [REDACTED] and consisted of one antenna building, a support building, and a generator building (Figure 10).

A second possible TALL KING air-warning radar facility was observed in the early stages of construction near Vazquez on [REDACTED] but the identification is not firm (Figure 11).

#### Military Activity

The only significant ground order of battle observed during the period covered by this report was at La Habana Army Barracks Fort de la Cabana (23-08N 082-20W) on [REDACTED] when three FROG resupply transporters with truck tractors, nine FROG transporters/erectors/launchers (TEL) with rockets, one POL truck, three cargo trucks, and three utility trucks were visible.

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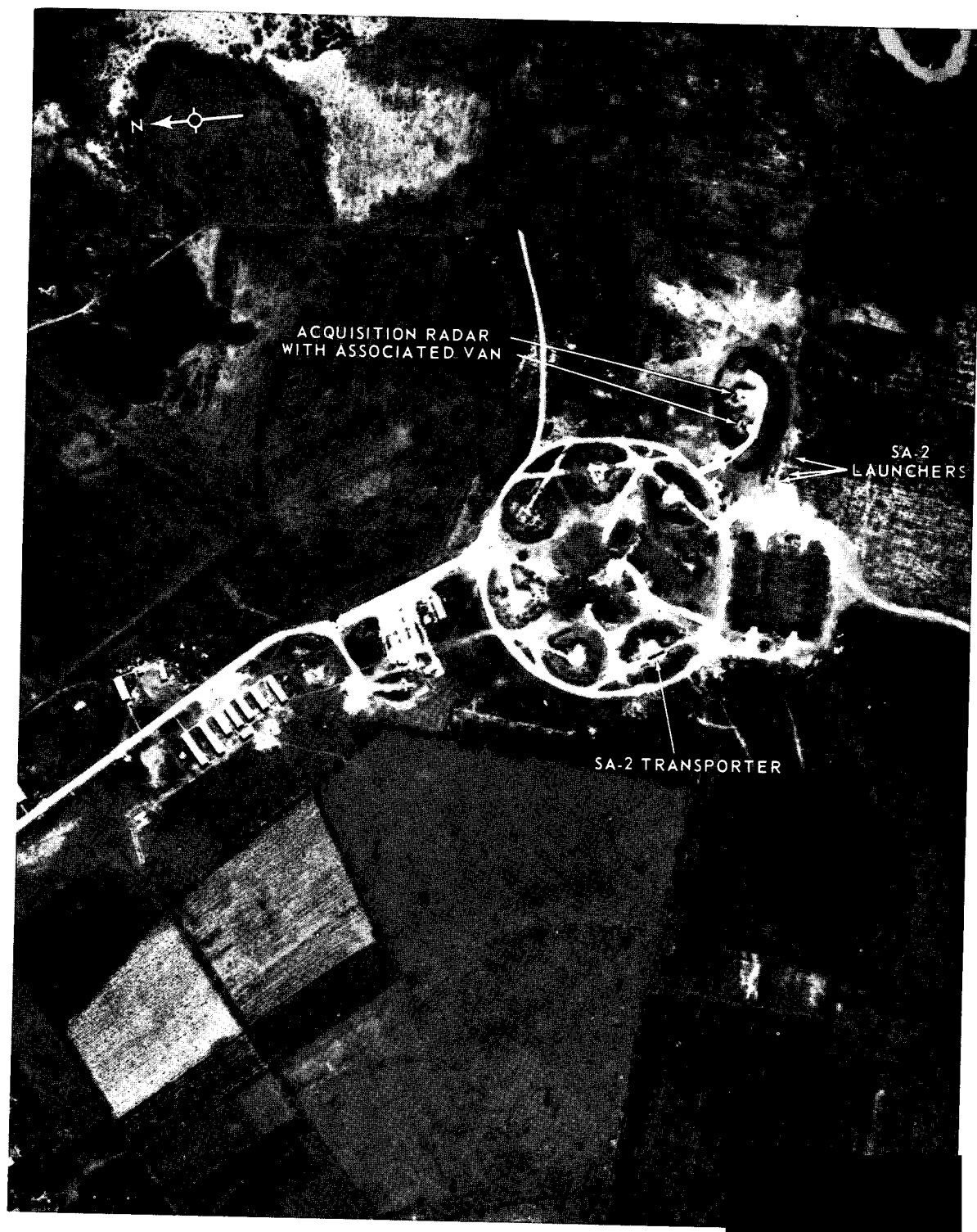


FIGURE 3. PUNTA BALLENATOS SAM SITE.

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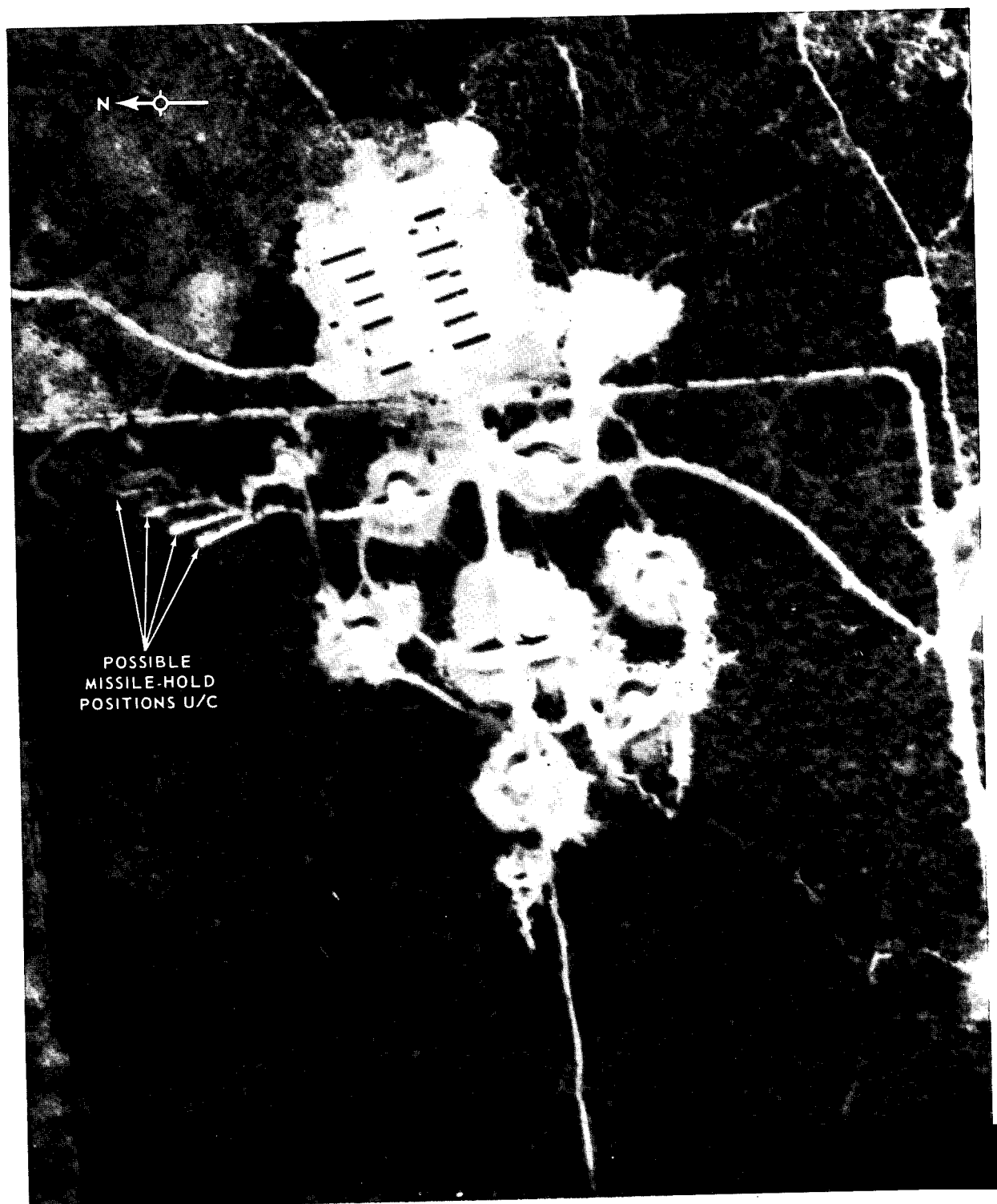


FIGURE 4. SANTIAGO DE CUBA SAM SITE.

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FIGURE 5. COJIMAR PROBABLE SAM SITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

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FIGURE 6. MATAGUA AIRFIELD.

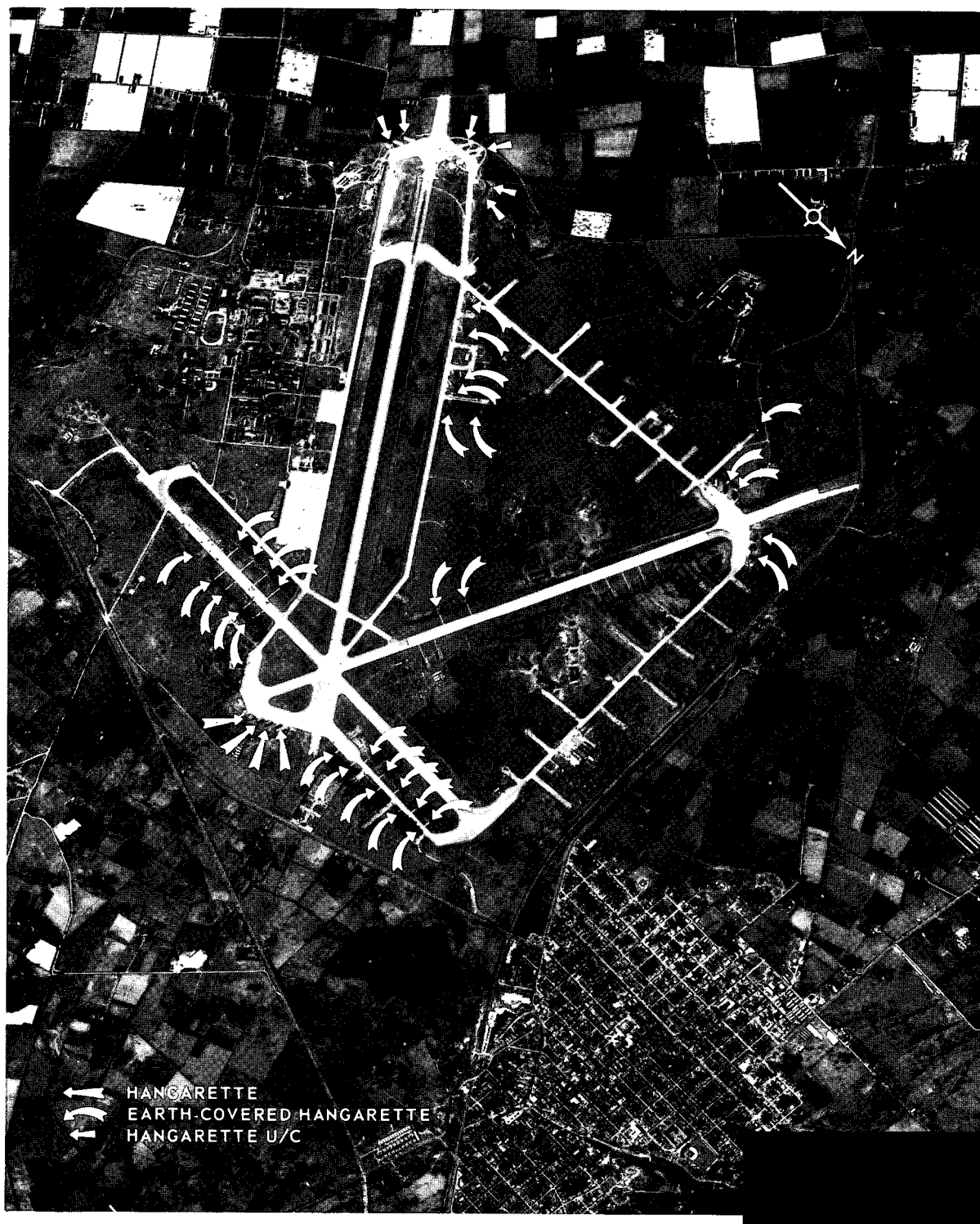


FIGURE 7. SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BANOS AIRFIELD.



FIGURE 8. CAMILIO CIENFUEGOS AIRFIELD.

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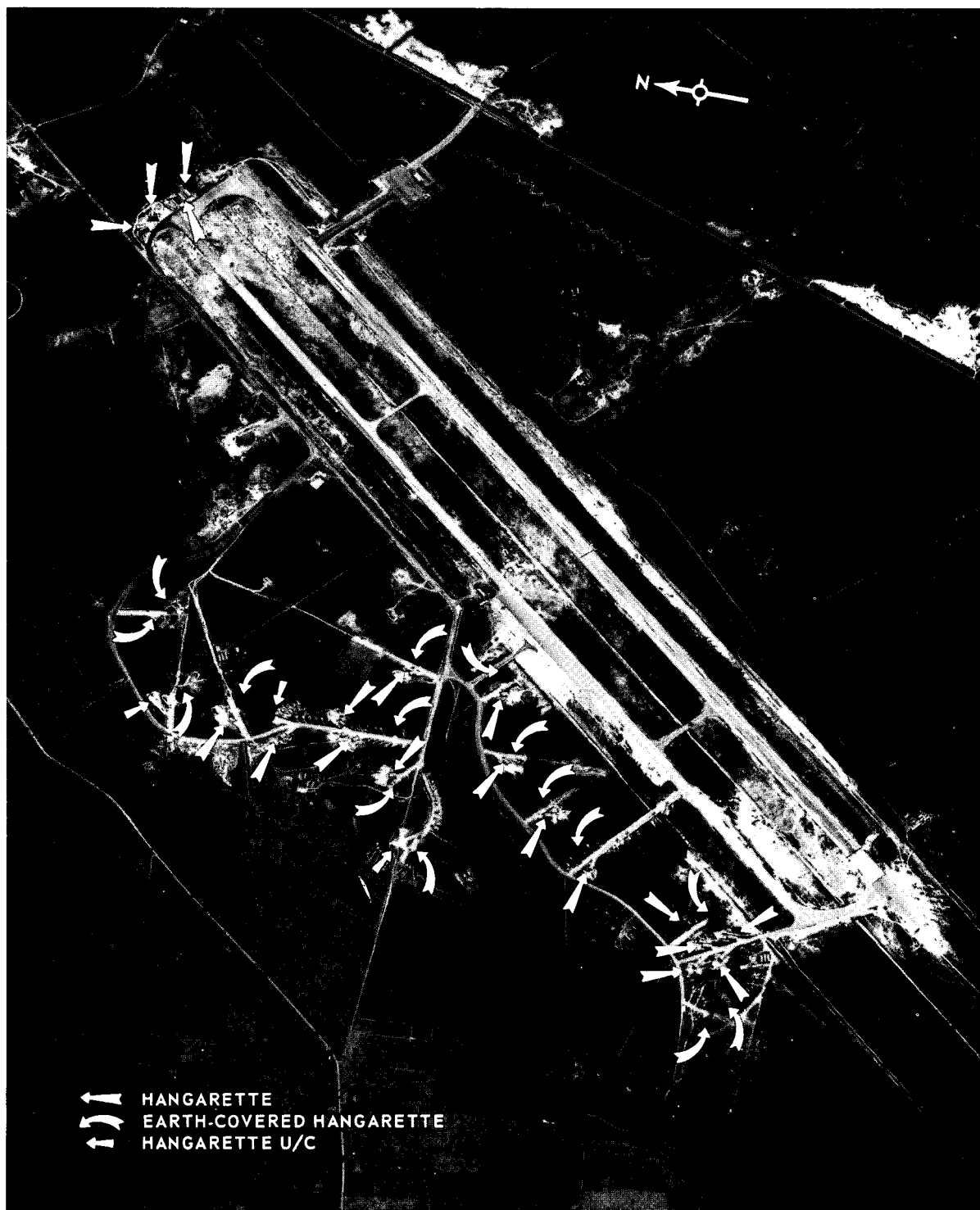


FIGURE 9. HOLGUIN AIRFIELD.

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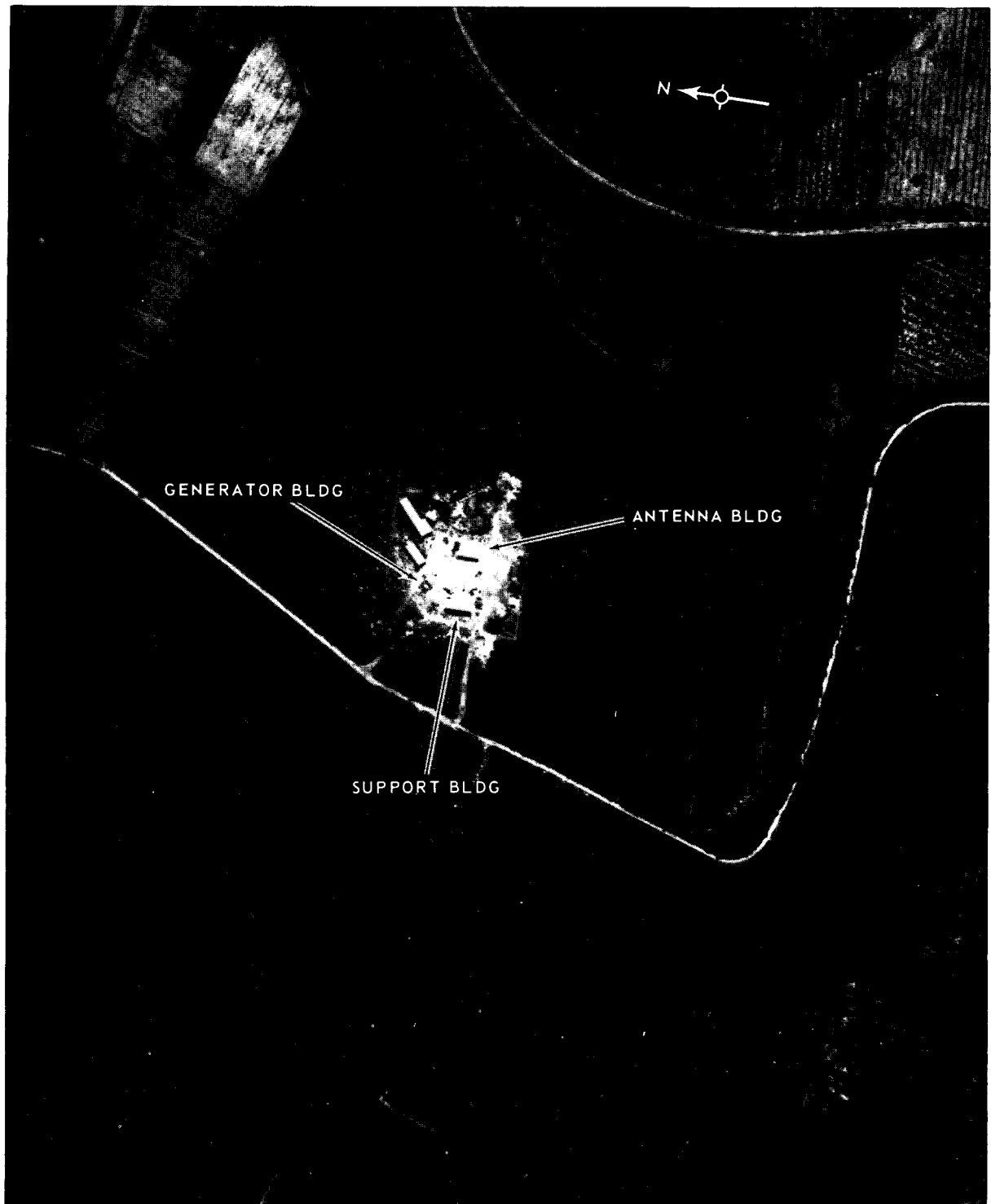


FIGURE 10. SANTA CRUZ DEL NORTE TALL KING AW RADAR FACILITY.

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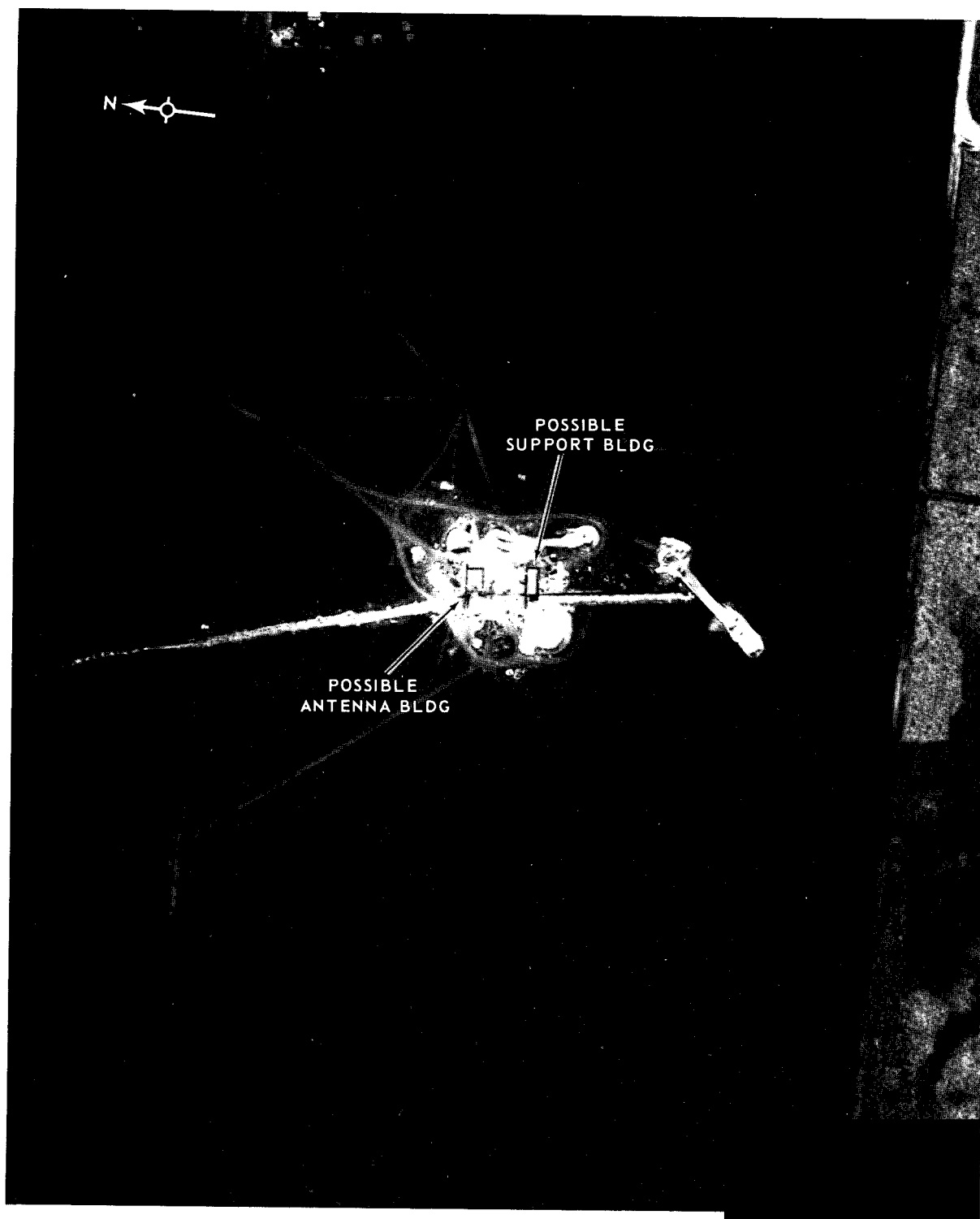


FIGURE 11. VAZQUEZ POSSIBLE TALL KING AW RADAR FACILITY.

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